THAKUR): (a) Various scientific organizations under the Government have been working on immunity enhancing products.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government would provide adequate funds for ensuring availability of genuine raw materials, standardization of products, inter-mural and extra-mural research and broader facilities for testing ISM&H products.

Expensive HIV/AIDS drugs

1380. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drugs for HIV/AIDS positive are very expensive in the country as compared to other countries of the world;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to increase the price of HIV/AIDS drugs;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government are getting any aid from WHO; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) No, Sir. WHO does not provide support for HIV/AIDS drugs.

Use of Anti-Retroviral Drugs

1381. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that transmission of HIV from mother to the newly born baby can be reduced provided anti-retroviral drugs are given to the mother;

(b) whether any study has been conducted on this; and

(c) if so, the details and the outcome of the study undertaken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has initiated feasibility studies on prevention of mother to child transmission in 11 centres located in high HIV prevalent States